

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended). A self-adhesive article for mechanical protection of painted plastic mounted parts of automobiles, comprising a backing material in film form having a Young's modulus of less than 300 N/mm<sup>2</sup>, an outside outer side and an inner side, the whose outer side of which is laminated with a layer of knitted fabric and whose the inner side of which is pressure-sensitively adhesive through application of a self-adhesive composition.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the backing material in film form has a thickness of from 10 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 4 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the backing material in film form is composed of polyolefins, polyolefin blends, polyurethane, flexible PVC or a combination thereof.


Claim 5 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the backing material in film form contains more than 0.15% by weight of a light stabilizer.

Claim 6 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the backing material in film form is perforated, foamed or both.

Claim 7 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the knitted fabric has a basis weight of from 10 to 200 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Claim 8 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the knitted fabric is composed of polyamide, polyester or polyethylene.

Claim 9 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the backing material is coated with from 10 to 80 g/m<sup>2</sup>, of a self-adhesive composition.



Claim 10 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the backing material in film form is joined to the knitted fabric by means of a laminating adhesive.


Claim 11 (original). The self-adhesive article as claimed in claim 10, wherein the backing material in film form is joined to the knitted fabric by means of a reactive laminating adhesive based on a two-part polyurethane.

Claim 12 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in claim 10, wherein the laminating adhesive is applied over the complete area or partially.

Claim 13 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the base polymer of the pressure sensitive adhesive is polyisobutylene or polyethylene-vinyl acetate.

Claim 14 (previously presented). The self-adhesive article as claimed in Claim 1, wherein an adhesion promoter is situated between backing material in film form and pressure sensitive adhesive.

Claim 15 (previously presented). A method for protecting curved areas on the outside of automobiles which comprises applying to said curved areas the self-adhesive article of Claim 1.



Claim 16 (previously presented). A method for the protection of painted plastic automobile bumpers, which comprises applying to said bumpers the self-adhesive article of Claim 1.

Claim 17 (original). The self-adhesive article of Claim 2, wherein said Young's modulus is less than 150 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.

Claim 18 (original). The self-adhesive article of Claim 3, wherein said thickness is from 40-100 µm.

Claim 19 (currently amended). The self-adhesive article of Claim 5, wherein the backing material in ~~fiber~~ film form contains more than 0.3% by weight of said light stabilizer.

Claim 20 (original). The self-adhesive article of Claim 7, wherein said basis weight is from 20-80 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Claim 21. (original). The self-adhesive article of Claim 9, wherein said backing material is coated with from 15-40 g/m<sup>2</sup> of said self-adhesive composition.